

Message Text

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ACTION ACDA-10

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S E C R E T MBFR VIENNA 0375

MBFR NEGOTIATIONS

FROM US REP MBFR

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PARM, NATO

SUBJECT: MBFR NEGOTIATIONS: SUMMARY OF AD HOC GROUP MEETING,
30 OCTOBER 9174

1. BEGIN SUMMARY: AT ITS OCTOBER 30 MEETING, THE AD
HOC GROUP HEARD REPORTS ON BILATERAL WITH
SOVIET, POLISH AND ROMANIAN REPS, APPROVED STATEMENT FOR
DELIVERY BY US REP AT OCT. 31 PLENARY MEETING AND RE-

ATED PRESS TALKING POINTS, AND DISCUSSED RESULTS
OF OCT. 29 INFORMAL AND FUTURE TACTICS. END SUMMARY

2. IN BILATERALS, SOVIET DELOFF SHUSTOV INDICATED THAT
THE EAST WOULD INTRODUCE ITS INITIAL REDUCTIONS PROPOSAL
AT OCT. 31 PLENARY, SOVIET DEP REP SMIRNOVSKY EXPRESSED
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SATISFACTION WITH OCT. 29 INFORMAL MEETING AND ROMANIAN

REP ANINOIU INDICATED CONTINUED SENSITIVITY TO INSTITUTIONALIZED INFORMALS. IN A BACKGROUND INTERVIEW WITH A NORWEGIAN RADIO-TV TEAM, POLISH REP STRULAK STATED FIRMLY THAT GLOBAL CEILINGS WERE UNACCEPTABLE TO POLAND, AND THAT THERE WOULD HAVE TO BE NATIONAL CEILINGS, PARTICULARLY ON THE BUNDESWEHR. STRULAK ALSO REPEATED EARLIER POLISH DEL PRESS LEAK REGARDING NEW EASTERN PROPOSAL, BUT ADDED NO FURTHER DETAILS.

3. PARTICIPANTS IN OCT. 29 INFORMAL NOTED THAT EAST HAD PRESENTED INITIAL REDUCTION STEP AS A FLEXIBLE COMMITMENT PROMISE PROPOSAL, AND THAT EAST HAD SOUGHT TO SHELVE GROUND FORCE REDEFINITION DISCUSSION FOR THE MOMENT IN ITS PRESENTATION.

AHG REPS BELIEVED, HOWEVER, THAT ALLIED AND EASTERN REPS GROUNDWORK AT OCT. 29 INFORMAL FOR DISCUSSION OF BOTH ISSUES AT NOV. 5 INFORMAL, AND THAT KHLESTOV'S REMARK ABOUT RECEIVING "FOOD FOR THOUGHT" INDICATED HIS RECOGNITION THAT GROUND FORCE REDEFINITION DISCUSSION WOULD CONTINUE. UK REP ASSERTED THAT AHG HAD NEARLY RUN OUT OF NEW MATERIAL FOR INFORMAL MEETING AND PARTICULARLY NEEDED RAPID NAC GUIDANCE ON AIR FORCE

NO-INCREASE ISSUE.

4. DURING ENSUING DISCUSSION OF FUTURE ALLIED TACTICS, BELGIAN REP (ADRIAENSSEN) ASSERTED THAT EASTERN REPS HAD SEIZED THE INITIATIVE WITH THEIR FIRST STEP PROPOSAL. FOR THE THIRD TIME IN TEN DAYS WITHIN THE ADHOC GROUP, ADRIAENSSEN SAID THE ALLIES SHOULD SEEK TO PRESENT A "FIRST STAGE" APPROACH AS A METHODOLOGICAL "MIDDLE GROUND" AND, IN THIS WAY TO MOVE INDIRECTLY TO DISCUSSION OF COMMON CEILING. US DEPREP, SUPPORTED BY UK REP, COUNTERED THIS BELGIAN ARGUMENTATION BY SAYING THE ALLIES WERE, PURSUANT TO JULY AHG RECOMMENDATIONS TO NAC, ALREADY ENGAGED IN JUST SUCH A GRADUAL SHIFT TO DISCUSSION OF ASPECTS THE COMMON CEILING. US AND UK REPS CAUTIONED AGAINST DISCUSSION OF METHODOLOGY OR DIRECT APPROACH ON COMMON CEILING WITH

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PACT REPS. AHG WILL CONTINUE DISCUSSION OF TACTICS AT ITS OCT 31 MEETING. DETAILED REPORT OF OCT 30 MEETING IS BEING SENT BY AIRGRAM.RESOR

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